AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A secure electronic entity, adapted to be connected to a host station ~~and synchronization means adapted, upon receipt of a message from said host station, to store a value in a register~~, said secure electronic entity containing means for measuring time and comprising means for certifying a date of receipt of a command from said host station and synchronization means adapted, upon receipt of a message from said host station, to store a value in a register, wherein said certification means receives from said time measuring means information on elapsed time and produces data certifying said date intended for an external entity in reference to said information on elapsed time and to said value,

wherein the time measuring means are adapted to supply a measurement of time when said electronic entity is not supplied with electrical power.

2. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein said certification means are adapted to supply a certified date.

3. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein said certification means are adapted to certify the authenticity of a date received from outside.

4. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein said certification means are adapted to certify that said command has been received from said host station in a given time period or before a limit date.

5. (cancelled)

6. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein said certification means use authentication means, said authentication means authenticate said data certifying said date.

7-8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein the time measuring means are adapted to supply a time measurement independently of any external clock signal.

10. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein the time measuring means include means for comparing two dates.

11. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein the secure electronic entity includes at least one subsystem comprising a capacitive component having a leak across its dielectric space, means for coupling said capacitive component to an electrical power supply for it to be charged by said electrical power supply, and means for measuring the residual charge in the capacitive component, said residual charge being at least in part representative of the time that has elapsed since the capacitive component was decoupled from the electrical power supply.

12. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 11, wherein said means for measuring the residual charge are part of said time measuring means.

13. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 11, wherein the capacitive component is a capacitor implemented in the MOS technology and whose dielectric space consists of silicon oxide.

14. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 11, wherein the means for measuring the residual charge comprise a field-effect transistor having an insulative layer, in that the capacitive component includes an insulative layer, and in that the thickness of the insulative layer of the field-effect transistor is much greater than the thickness of the insulative layer of the capacitive component.

15. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 14, wherein the thickness of the insulative layer of the capacitive component is from 4 nanometers to 10 nanometers.

16. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 13, wherein the secure electronic entity includes at least two subsystems each comprising a capacitive component having a leak across its dielectric space, means for coupling said capacitive component to an electrical power supply for it to be charged by said electrical power supply, and means for measuring the residual charge in the capacitive component, said residual charge being at least in part representative of the time that has elapsed since the capacitive component was decoupled from the electrical power supply, said subsystems comprising capacitive components having different

leaks across their respective dielectric spaces, and in that said secure electronic entity further includes means for processing measurements of the respective residual charges in said capacitive components to extract from said measurements information substantially independent of heat input to said entity during the elapsed time.

17. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 16, wherein said processing means include software for calculating a predetermined function for determining said information as a function of said measurements substantially independently of the heat input.

18. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein the secure electronic entity is portable.

19. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein the secure electronic entity is a microcircuit card.

20. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein the secure electronic entity is an electronic tag.

21. (previously presented) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein said information on elapsed time determines a duration.

22. (previously presented) A secure electronic entity comprising:

a time measuring cell carrying a charge representative of an elapsed time;

means for determining a current time as a function of the charge and a reference time stored in a memory of the electronic entity; and

certification means producing data certifying an item of data relative to said current time.

23. (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) A secure electronic entity according to claim 22, wherein said time measuring cell is adapted to carry said charge when the electronic entity is not supplied with electrical power.

25. (previously presented) A secure electronic entity according to claim 22, adapted to receive the reference time from a server.

26. (previously presented) A secure electronic entity according to claim 25, adapted to receive an authentication code for said reference time.

27. (previously presented) A secure electronic entity according to claim 25, adapted to decrypt the reference time.